(Caption of Case) App. of Time Warner Cable Information Sys. (S. C.), LLC, d/b/a Time Warner Cable to Amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Telephone Services in the Service Area of Home Telephone Company, Inc., and for Alternative Regulation) BEFORE THE) PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION) OF SOUTH CAROLINA)) COVER SHEET)) DOCKET) NUMBER: 2008 - 327 - C		
(Please type or print					
Submitted by: Margaret M. Fox			SC Bar Number: <u>65418</u>		
Address:	McNair Law Firm		Felephone:	803-799-9800	
·	P. O. Box 11390		Fax:	803-753-3219	9
	Columbia, SC 29		Other: Email: ibowen@	mcnair.net	
be filled out comple Emergency R Other:		OCKETING INFOR tition	•		y) 's Agenda expeditiously
INDUSTRY (C	heck one)	NATURE OF ACTION (Check all that apply)			
☐ Electric		Affidavit	Letter		Request
☐ Electric/Gas		Agreement	Memorandum	ì	Request for Certification
Electric/Telecon	nmunications	Answer	Motion		Request for Investigation
☐ Electric/Water		Appellate Review	☐ Objection		Resale Agreement
☐ Electric/Water/T	Telecom.	Application	Petition		Resale Amendment
Electric/Water/S	Sewer	Brief	Petition for Re	econsideration	Reservation Letter
Gas		Certificate	Petition for Ru	ulemaking	Response
Railroad		Comments	Petition for Rule	e to Show Cause	Response to Discovery
Sewer		Complaint	Petition to Inte	ervene	Return to Petition
	tions	Consent Order	Petition to Inter	vene Out of Time	☐ Stipulation
Transportation		Discovery	Prefiled Testir	nony	Subpoena
☐ Water		Exhibit	Promotion		☐ Tariff
Water/Sewer		Expedited Consideration	Proposed Orde	er	Other:
Administrative N	Matter	Interconnection Agreement	Protest		
Other:		Interconnection Amendment	Publisher's Af	fidavit	
		Late-Filed Exhibit	Report		

MCNAIR LAW FIRM, P.A. ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

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September 18, 2008

Mr. Charles L. A. Terreni Chief Clerk/Administrator South Carolina Public Service Commission Synergy Business Park, The Saluda Building 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Application of Time Warner Cable Information Services (South Carolina), LLC, d/b/a Time Warner Cable to Amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Telephone Services in the Service Area of Home Telephone Company, Inc., and for Alternative Regulation **Docket No. 2008-327-C**

Dear Mr. Terreni:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Home Telephone Company, Inc., please find a Return to Motion for Protective Treatment in the above-referenced matter. By copy of this letter and Certificate of Service, all parties of record are being served by U. S. Mail with a copy of this Petition.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours, Mayacefle. Day

Margaret M. Fox

MMF/ss Enclosures

cc: Parties of Record

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

Docket No. 2008-327-C

IN RE:	Application of Time Warner Cable Information				
	Services (South Carolina), LLC, d/b/a Time)			
	Warner Cable to Amend its Certificate of Public)			
	Convenience and Necessity to Provide)			
	Telephone Services in the Service Area of)			
	Home Telephone Company, Inc., and for)			
	Alternative Regulation)			
)			

RETURN TO MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE TREATMENT

Home Telephone Company, Inc. ("Home") respectfully submits this Return to the "Motion for Protective Treatment and Basis for Filing Exhibit 3 as Trade Secret," filed by Time Warner Cable Information Services (South Carolina), LLC, doing business as Time Warner Cable ("TWCIS"), in the above-referenced docket.

Rule 103.829(A) of the Rules of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") allows for returns to be filed within ten (10) days after service of a motion. Home intervened in this proceeding on September 10, 2008, and has not yet been served with a copy of the motion. Therefore, this Return is timely.

In its Motion, TWCIS requests protective treatment of Exhibit 3 to its Application in this proceeding. Exhibit 3 is described as TWCIS' 2007 Telecommunications Company Annual Report. TWCIS claims the information contained in the Annual Report is not readily available to persons external to TWCIS, and contains confidential and commercially-sensitive information from which its competitors may derive economic value. TWCIS asserts the Company's Annual Report is a "trade secret" as that term is used in the South Carolina Trade Secrets Act, S.C. Code Ann. § 39-8-20(5).

In response to the Motion, Home respectfully submits:

1. Commission Regulation 103-612(1) provides as follows:

Annual Report. Each telephone utility operating in the State shall file an annual report with the commission and provide a copy to the ORS, giving such information as the commission may direct.

The Telecommunications Company Annual Report form, along with instructions, can be found on the website of the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS"). The reports are required to be filed by April 1 of each calendar year for the prior calendar year. Therefore, TWCIS either filed, or was required to file, a Telecommunications Company Annual Report with the Commission on April 1, 2008, for calendar year 2007. An electronic search of the Commission's docket management system by the undersigned counsel did not turn up any related motion for protective treatment.

2. In any event, TWCIS did provide a copy of its 2007 Telecommunications Company Annual Report to ORS on or around April 1, 2008. Upon information and belief, TWCIS did not make a motion for protective treatment of the Annual Report or take other

appropriate steps to protect the confidentiality of the Annual Report at the time it provided a copy of the Annual Report to ORS.

- 3. Based upon the foregoing, Home believes that TWCIS has already provided a copy of its 2007 Telecommunications Company Annual Report to ORS, a public agency. Therefore, the Annual Report is a public record as defined in the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-20(c). It would be futile for the Commission to grant protective treatment to something that is already in the public domain.
- 4. Furthermore, the Annual Report does not meet the definition of a "trade secret" under state law. Even if TWCIS' characterization of the information (confidential and commercially-sensitive information from which its competitors may derive economic value) were true, TWCIS has omitted a crucial element of the statutory definition. Under state law, information can be considered a "trade secret" only if it "is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy." S.C. Code Ann. 39-8-20(5)(a)(ii). In this case, TWCIS has filed the document with a public body, thereby making it a public record. Because TWCIS has already placed the information in the public domain by making it available on an unprotected basis to a public body, TWCIS cannot reasonably maintain that the information constitutes a trade secret under state law.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated herein, Home Telephone Company, Inc., respectfully requests that the Commission deny TWCIS' Motion for Protective Treatment of Exhibit 3 to its Application in the above-referenced matter; and grant such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

M. John Bowen, Jr.

Margaret M. Fox

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Attorneys for Home Telephone Company,

Inc.

Columbia, South Carolina

September 18, 2008

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Docket No. 2008-327-C

IN RE: Application of Time Warner Cable Information Services (South Carolina), LLC, d/b/a Time Warner Cable to Amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Telephone Services in the Service Area of Home Telephone Company, Incorporated and for Alternative Regulation Output Description:	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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This is to certify that I, Rebecca W. Martin, an employee with the McNair Law Firm, P. A., have this date served one (1) copy of a Return to Motion for Protective Treatment in the above-referenced matter to the persons named below by causing said copy to be deposited with the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepaid and affixed thereto, and addressed as shown below.

Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esquire Nanette S. Edwards, Esquire Office of Regulatory Staff Post Office Box 11263 Columbia, South Carolina 29211

C. Bradley Hutto, Esquire Williams & Williams Post Office Box 1084 Orangeburg, South Carolina 29115 Frank Ellerbe, III, Esquire Bonnie D. Shealy, Esquire Robinson, McFadden & Moore, P. C. Post Office Box 944 Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Rebesea W. Martin McNair Law Firm, P.A. Post Office Box 11390

Columbia, South Carolina 29211

(803) 799-9800

September 18, 2008

Columbia, South Carolina